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RELEASED IN FULL

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ACTION DS-00

INFO	LOG-00	MFA-00	NP-00	AID-00	A-00	ACQ-00	CA-01
	CCO-00	CEA-01	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00	DINT-00	DODE-00
	DOEE-00	ITCE-00	DOTE-00	WHA-00	SRPP-00	EB-00	EXME-00
	E-00	FAAE-00	UTED-00	VC-00	FRB-00	OBO-00	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	ITC-01	LAB-01	L-00	VCE-00	M-00
	AC-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-03	OES-01	OMB-01	OPIC-01
	OPR-01	PA-00	PER-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00
	SCT-00	SP-00	IRM-00	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-00	TEST-00
	TRSE-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	IIP-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00
	DRL-02	G-00	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/016W		

-----8BB932 252003Z /38

O 251930Z APR 02  
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5614  
INFO OPEC COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
AMEMBASSY LIMA  
USCINCSO MIAMI FL

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 CARACAS 001130

NSC FOR AMB MAISTO  
USCINCSO FOR POLAD  
DEPT CA FOR MARY A. RYAN AND DS/OP/WHA AND S/ES-  
O\_DS/OP/CC

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E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: ECON, PGOV, PREL, EPET, ASEC, CASC, VE  
SUBJECT: SITREP: THE DAY AFTER 12:00 APRIL 12

REF: A. CARACAS 00984 B. CARACAS 00980 C. CARACAS  
00974 D. CARACAS 00973 E. CARACAS 00966 F. CARACAS  
00948 G. CARACAS 00986

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED, PLEASE HANDLE ACCORDINGLY.

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SPORATIC VIOLENCE CONTINUES  
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J OLSON  
DATE/CASE ID: 11 OCT 2006 200505275

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1. (U) THIS CABLE WAS DRAFTED ON APRIL 12, BUT WAS NOT RELEASED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR TECHNICAL REASONS.

2. (SBU) CURRENTLY, VENEZUELAN LAW ENFORCEMENT (VLE), SPECIFICALLY THE CUERPO DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTIFICAS, PENALES Y CRIMINALISTICAS (CICPC), THE POLICIA METROPOLITANA (PM) AND THE GUARDIA NACIONAL (GN) ARE DISPATCHED THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF CARACAS IN AN EFFORT TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC ORDER AS A RESULT OF THE RECENT CIVIL DISTURBANCE THAT RESULTED IN THE RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT HUGO CHAVEZ-FRIAS. DURING THE PAST 12 HOURS, VLE HAS BEEN CONDUCTING NUMEROUS ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS IN CARACAS IN AN EFFORT TO ARREST AND/OR NEUTRALIZE THE PRO-CHAVEZ SUPPORTERS IMPLICATED IN THE ATTACK OF OPPOSITION DEMONSTRATORS IN ON 04/11/2002. THE VLE HAS ARRESTED SEVERAL

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INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN CHARGED IN THE ATTACK, AND HAVE SEIZED A VARIETY OF SMALL CALIBER WEAPONS EITHER UTILIZED OR STORED BY THE GROUP. VLE BELIEVES THAT THE PRO-CHAVEZ SUPPORTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATTACK ON UNARMED CIVILIANS WHO PARTICIPATED IN OPPOSITION DEMONSTRATION WILL CONTINUE TO RESORT TO VIOLENCE TO DISRUPT THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT TRANSITION.

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THREATS AGAINST THE MEDIA  
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3. (SBU) PRESS REPORTS INDICATE VIOLENCE IN THE STATES OF TACHIRA, FALCON, AND MERIDA BY PRO-CHAVISTAS. THE MEDIA ALSO REPORTS THAT BOLIVARIAN CIRCLE MEMBERS ARE ATTEMPTING TO ENTER THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BUILDING.

4. (SBU) THE BOLIVARIAN CIRCLES RELEASED A LIST OF NEWS REPORTERS WHO THEY ARE TARGETING. THIS LIST WAS RELEASED SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, HOWEVER, NOW THAT IT APPEARS THE CIRCLES ARE INDEED TARGETING THE MEDIA, THE REPORTERS HAVE ASKED TODAY THAT THE POLICE PROVIDE THEM WITH INCREASED PROTECTION.

5. (SBU) TWO JOURNALISTS FROM CHANNEL 8, THE GOVERNMENT OWNED NEWS CHANNEL, WENT TO INDEPENDENT TV STATION GLOBOVISION TO ASK FOR THEIR PROTECTION. APPARENTLY, THEY HAD BEEN RECEIVING THREATS FROM THE PUBLIC.

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ESQUALIDOS SRIKE BACK!

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6. (SBU) SURROUNDED BY A LARGE, ANGRY, CHANTING CROWD, BARUTA POLICE TOOK FORMER MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR RODRIGUEZ CHACIN INTO CUSTODY AT AROUND 1:00 P.M. AT 2:30 P.M., MVR DEPUTY WILLIAM TAREK SAAB WAS TAKEN INTO POLICE CUSTODY IN THE CARACAS SUBURB OF EL HATILLO.

7. (SBU) IN MERIDA, A LARGE CROWD HAS GATHERED AT THE GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE, DEMANDING THAT MVR GOVERNOR FLORENCIO PORRAS NOT ONLY RENOUNCE HIS OFFICE, BUT THAT HE MOVE OUT OF THE RESIDENCE. THE CROWD WAS JUBILANT, SINGING "SE VA, SE VA, SE VA, SE VA." SIMILAR SCENES HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN TACHIRA STATE.

CTV PRESS CONFERENCE

8. (SBU) CARLOS ORTEGA, PRESIDENT OF THE CTV HELD A MID-DAY PRESS CONFERENCE DURING WHICH HE CALLED FOR THE DISSOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. HE ALSO PRAISED THE MEDIA FOR THEIR BRAVE COVERAGE OF THE EVENTS, AND FOR BRINGING THE TRUTH NOT ONLY TO THE PEOPLE OF VENEZUELA, BUT TO THE ENTIRE WORLD. HE PLEDGED THE CTV'S SUPPORT TO THE TRANSITIONAL MILITARY LEADERSHIP,

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	DODE-00	DOEE-00	ITCE-00	DOTE-00	WHA-00	SRFP-00	EB-00
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	M-00	AC-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-03	OES-01	OMB-01
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	P-00	SCT-00	SP-00	IRM-00	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-00
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AND STATED THAT THE CTV WAS PREPARED TO INITIATE THE  
DIALOG AS AN INDEPENDENT, NON-POLITICAL ACTOR. ORTEGA  
ALSO CALLED ON THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT TO  
REINSTATE THE LEADERSHIP OF PDVSA, AND TO NAME A NEW  
DIRECTOR FROM WITHIN THE OIL INDUSTRY.

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ATTORNEY GENERAL CHIMES IN  
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9. (SBU) ATTORNEY GENERAL ISIAS RODRIGUEZ SPOKE OUT IN A  
2:30 PRESS CONFERENCE, SAYING THAT UNTIL HE RENOUNCES  
HIS PRESIDENCY BEFORE THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, HUGO  
CHAVEZ IS STILL PRESIDENT. HE CLAIMED THAT CHAVEZ'S  
HUMAN RIGHTS WERE BEING VIOLATED BECAUSE HE WAS BEING  
HELD INCOMMUNICADO, AGAINST HIS WILL.

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FEDECAMARAS  
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10. (SBU) FEDECAMARAS REPRESENTATIVES ARE AT THE EMBASSY TO  
MEET WITH THE AMBASSADOR.

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